United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 18, 2005

Dear Senate Conferee:

We urge you to defend the Senate-passed version of the USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2005.

The Senate bill retains all of the new powers created by the PATRIOT Act, but places reasonable checks and balances on these powers. It takes important steps to protect fundamental constitutional rights while giving law enforcement the authorities they need to fight terrorism.

The House of Representatives bill reauthorizes all of the PATRIOT Act's expiring powers, but it does not place limits on these powers that are needed to protect the constitutional rights of innocent Americans. Additionally, it includes controversial extraneous provisions that are unrelated to the PATRIOT Act, have not been requested by the Bush administration, and have not been considered by the Senate.

We respectfully request that you defend the Senate position in the conference on the USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2005. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Cra g

Richard J. Durbin

John E. Sakunu

Russell D. Feingold

Lisa Murkowski

Ken Salazar

Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

Dianne Feinstein

Letter to Senate Conferees, USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2005 October 18, 2005

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